

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 IO-14 ISO-00 NEA-14 DEAE-00 CIAE-00

INR-10 JUSE-00 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SNM-02 SY-04 TRSE-00

USIA-15 NSC-07 SCI-06 OMB-01 SS-20 AID-20 HEW-08 SP-03

EB-11 AGR-20 PA-04 PRS-01 DRC-01 /199 W

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R 121050Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4538

INFO AMCONSUL ADANA

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

USMISSION GENEVA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL IZMIR

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 4565

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR, TU

SUBJ: OPIUM POPPY BAN: CALL ON FOREIGN MINISTER

1. IN MEETING WITH FONMIN GUNES JUNE 11, I REPORTED TO HIM IN DETAIL ON MY EXTENSIVE DISCUSSIONS WITH MEMBERS OF CONGRESS CONCERNING OPIUM POPPY ISSUE DURING RECENT CONSULTATIONS IN WASHINGTON. SUMMING UP, I TOLD HIM THAT OVERWHELMING JUDGMENT OF CONGRESSMEN AND SENATORS I CONSULTED WAS THAT IF CULTIVATION RESUMED, CONGRESS WOULD INEVITABLY DEMAND THAT US AID TO TURKEY BE CUT OFF. SOME MEMBERS, I REPORTED, FELT THIS WOULD BE A MISTAKE AND THEY HAD ASSURED ME THEY WOULD OPPOSE SUCH EXTREME ACTION. THE STRONG VIEW OF THESE LATTER WAS THAT THEY WOULD NOT PREVAIL, HOWEVER, AND THAT CONGRESS AS A WHOLE WOULD CLEARLY DECIDE IT HAD NO OTHER CHOICE BUT TO WITHDRAW SUPPORT FOR TURKEY.

2. I SAID THAT IN VIEW OF THIS I FELT IT WAS MY  
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OBLIGATION TO MAKE EXPLICITLY CLEAR MY PERSONAL JUDGMENT

THAT IF GOT DECIDES TO RESUME CULTIVATION, (1) US-TURKISH RELATIONSHIP IS GOING TO CHANGE; (2) THE CHANGE WILL BE SIGNIFICANT; AND (3) THE CHANGE WILL BE ADVERSE TO INTERNATIONAL STABILITY AND SPECIFICALLY TO THE SECURITY INTERESTS OF BOTH COUNTRIES. I ADDED THAT HAVING MANY TIMES OUTLINED THE SUBSTANTIVE REASONS WHY THE USG BELIEVED THE BAN SHOULD NOT BE LIFTED AND THAT HAVING GIVEN THEM NOW THIS CANDID ASSESSMENT OF THE CONGRESSIONAL SITUATION, I COULD DO NO MORE. IT WAS NOW UP TO GOT TO DECIDE WHICH WAY IT WISHED TO GO.

3. FONMIN RESPONDED THAT HE HAD SAME IMPRESSION ABOUT CONGRESSIONAL REACTION. HE ALSO SHARED BELIEF THAT US-TURKISH COOPERATION IS OF KEY IMPORTANCE TO BOTH COUNTRIES. HE SAID HE WOULD BE SORRY INDEED IF HE WOULD UP WITH LABEL OF MINISTER WHO DAMAGED RELATIONS WITH US. HOWEVER, BOTH GOVTS SQUEEZED BETWEEN OUR PARLIAMENTS. HE WANTED TO ASSURE ME THAT GOT SEEKING SOLUTION THAT (1) WILL NOT DAMAGE US IMAGE IN TURKEY AND THAT (2) WOULD CAUSE LEAST POSSIBLE NEGATIVE REACTION FROM US CONGRESS AND PUBLIC OPINION. HE WISHED POPPY ISSUE HAD NEVER EXISTED, AND HE PREDICTED IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT FOR BOTH GOVTS TO GET OUT OF IT UNDAMAGED. HE ADDED THAT HE DID NOT SEE HOW IT WOULD BE POLITICALLY POSSIBLE FOR GOT TO TAKE POSITION WITH ITS OWN PARLIAMENT THAT OUT OF DEFERENCE TO THE OBVIOUS IMPORTANCE IT ATTACHED TO ITS RELATIONS WITH THE US IT HAD DECIDED NOT RPT NOT TO RESCIND THE BAN.

4. I SAID I RECOGNIZED DIFFICULTY FOR GOT OF EXPLAINING TO PUBLIC A DECISION TO MAINTAIN BAN. I AGAIN ARGUED, HOWEVER, THAT GOT COULD JUSTIFY KEEPING BAN ON GROUNDS IT HAD FOUND BETTER SOLUTION FOR FARMER THROUGH ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF FORMER POPPY GROWING REGION. MINISTER DID NOT RESPOND TO THIS.

5. COMMENT: WHILE GUNES HAS NOT BACKED AWAY FROM BASIC COURSE GOT HAS SET, I AM SLIGHTLY ENCOURAGED BY HIS DISPLAY OF GREATER CONCERN FOR POTENTIAL DETERIORATION IN US-TURKISH RELATIONSHIP THAN HE HAS EVER ADMITTED TO BEFORE. OUR EFFORTS TO PERSUADE HIGH-LEVEL TURKISH OFFICIALS OF DANGER INVOLVED IN COURSE THEY ARE ON MAY FINALLY  
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BE HAVING SOME EFFECT. IT IS OUR HOPE THAT COMMENTS MADE TO TURKISH GENERAL STAFF CHIEF SANCAR DURING HIS WASHINGTON VISIT WILL HAVE BEEN SUFFICIENTLY IMPRESSIVE THAT ON HSI RETURN FROM US THIS WEEKEND, HE WILL GIVE IMPORTANT BOOST TO OUR EFFORTS HERE.

6. DISCUSSIONS ON OTHER TOPICS REPORTED SEPARATELY.  
MACOMBER

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## Message Attributes

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